

**ADDENDUM**

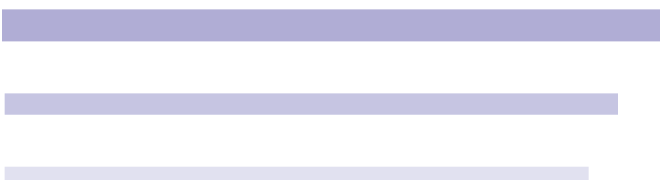


# CalWORKs

*Applicant Characteristics Survey*

*Federal Fiscal Year 1999*

*October 1998 through September 1999*



California Department of Social Services  
Research and Development Division  
CalWORKs and Food Stamps Data Systems Design Taskforce

# **CalWORKs Applicant Characteristics**

## **An Addendum to the CalWORKs Characteristics Survey**

### **A Look at Characteristics of Applicant Families**

**A Subset of Cases from The  
FFY 1999  
CalWORKs Characteristics Survey**

**Federal Fiscal Year 1999  
October 1998 through September 1999**

**California Work Opportunity  
And Responsibility to Kids Program  
(CalWORKs)**



**Prepared By**

**The California Department of Social Services  
Research and Development Division  
CalWORKs and Food Stamps Data Systems Design Taskforce**

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## FOREWORD

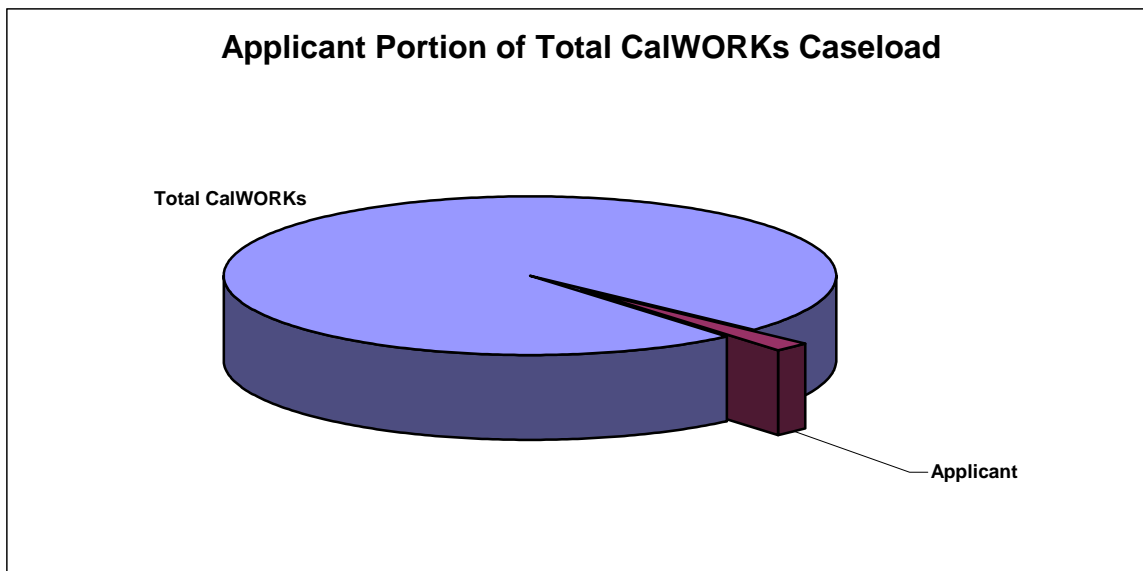
On August 22, 1996 Public Law 104-193 established the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, replacing the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program. California began using TANF funds on December 1, 1996 to initiate the TANF program in this state. California enacted legislation effective on January 1, 1998 establishing the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) Program.

This report presents data on various social and economic characteristics of "applicant" families who received cash or services from the CalWORKs program at least one of the months during the time period from October 1998 through September 1999. For the purpose of this review, a case is defined as "applicant" if the needy family filed a new application and was not on aid for at least 90 days prior to the date the application was filed.

**This report provides comparisons between the applicant subsample and the total CalWORKs sample (which includes the applicant subsample).**

## SURVEY DISPLAY

The intent of most of the tables in this publication is to compare the FFY 1999 applicant characteristics with the characteristics of the total CalWORKs caseload (which includes the applicant data). These comparisons can be made because the applicant caseload makes up only 2% of the CalWORKs total caseload (see graphic below).



## **THE CalWORKs PROGRAM**

The CalWORKs caseload of 624,095 is a monthly average of the caseload from October 1998 through September 1999. It includes 1,375,777 children and 535,119 adults. The applicant portion of this caseload is 12,497, the monthly average of the applicant caseload for the same period. This represents approximately 2% of the total CalWORKs caseload. These applicant cases contain 20,861 children and 11,014 adults.

An assistance unit (AU) is composed of those persons in the family who have been approved for CalWORKs benefits. A "household" differs from an AU in that the household includes all persons in the same dwelling unit regardless of their relationship to members of the AU or their eligibility for CalWORKs. A CalWORKs AU is also referred to as a "case."

## **DATA SOURCES**

Staff from the Performance Measurement Counties (the largest 18 counties excluding Los Angeles) and the California Department of Social Services Field Operations Bureau (collecting Los Angeles County data) collect the data. This data is collected to meet mandated TANF/CalWORKs reporting requirements, develop policy, evaluate programs, calculate participation rates, as well as to conduct Quality Control (QC) reviews of the Food Stamp Program. The tool used to accomplish this process is known as the Q5.

Information was derived from reviews of case records. When necessary, recipient interviews were conducted in order to collect information that was not found in the case records. Survey data for Tables 6 and 7 was supplemented with information from the Employment Development Department's (EDD) base wage file.

## SAMPLING INFORMATION

The sample cases for the survey were selected from the Department of Health Services' Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System monthly extract file. This file is a continually updated listing of all persons in California who are eligible for Medi-Cal cards, including those who receive CalWORKs benefits in a particular month.

Each month a random sample of open cases is selected. The total sample for FFY 1999 consisted of 3,733 CalWORKs cases, of which 985 were applicant cases. **The cases were weighted to adjust the representation of the applicant cases reviewed to the actual proportion they represented in the total CalWORKs sample (i.e. 2 percent). For details, refer to "THE CalWORKs PROGRAM" on page 1.**

## DATA PRESENTATION

The data represented by tables in this publication were developed by expanding the number of sample cases to the monthly average number of CalWORKs cases (and within that category, applicant cases) that received cash or services at some time during the twelve-month period. Since the sample was drawn from cases and not persons, the person data was also expanded using statistically derived case weights.

## RECIPIENT PROFILE

The applicant CalWORKs population has a wide range of social and economic characteristics. The following is a selection of some of the key information collected from this survey. In addition, comparisons are made with the total CalWORKs caseload as reflected in the CalWORKs Characteristics Survey for FFY 1999 (total CalWORKs).

The Recipient Profile Matrix on the following page reflects the characteristics that make the applicant cases distinct from the total CalWORKs caseload. The applicant cases have fewer people receiving aid and both the adults and children are, on average, younger than those in the total CalWORKs caseload. Further, the applicant adults are better educated. In the areas of race and citizenship, the applicant adults are more likely to be white and U.S. citizens. In addition, applicant adult heads of households are more likely to speak English than adults in the total CalWORKs caseload.

## Recipient Profile Matrix

Data Item	CalWORKs Applicant 1999	Total CalWORKs 1999
Average Number of Aided Persons per Case <sup>a/</sup>	2.6	3.0
Average Number of Aided Children per Case	1.8	2.2
Average Age of Adults	30.4	34.2
Average Age of Children	6.8	7.7
Percent of Adults with 12 or more Years of Education	48.2%	41.7%
Race of Adults:		
Hispanic	39.7%	36.4%
White	36.4%	30.0%
Black	16.5%	18.6%
Asian/Other	7.4%	15.0%
Adult Heads of Households that speak English:	76.0%	64.5%
U.S. Citizens:		
Adults	81.5%	72.3%
Children	96.9%	94.8%

a/ The average number of aided persons is not reflected on a table in this publication, but was noted on Table 1 in the 1999 CalWORKs Characteristic Survey.

## RELIABILITY OF THE DATA

Since the information presented in the tables was based on a sample, it may differ somewhat from figures that would have been obtained if a complete census had been taken. The CalWORKs survey from which the applicant caseload is derived is based on a random sample selection process that yields first level case data with a confidence level of 95 percent and a precision of plus or minus 3.11 percent (Appendix A).

**As with all sample data, care should be exercised in the interpretation of percentages when based on a relatively small number of cases.** See Appendix A for assistance in determining reliability of the data presented in this publication.

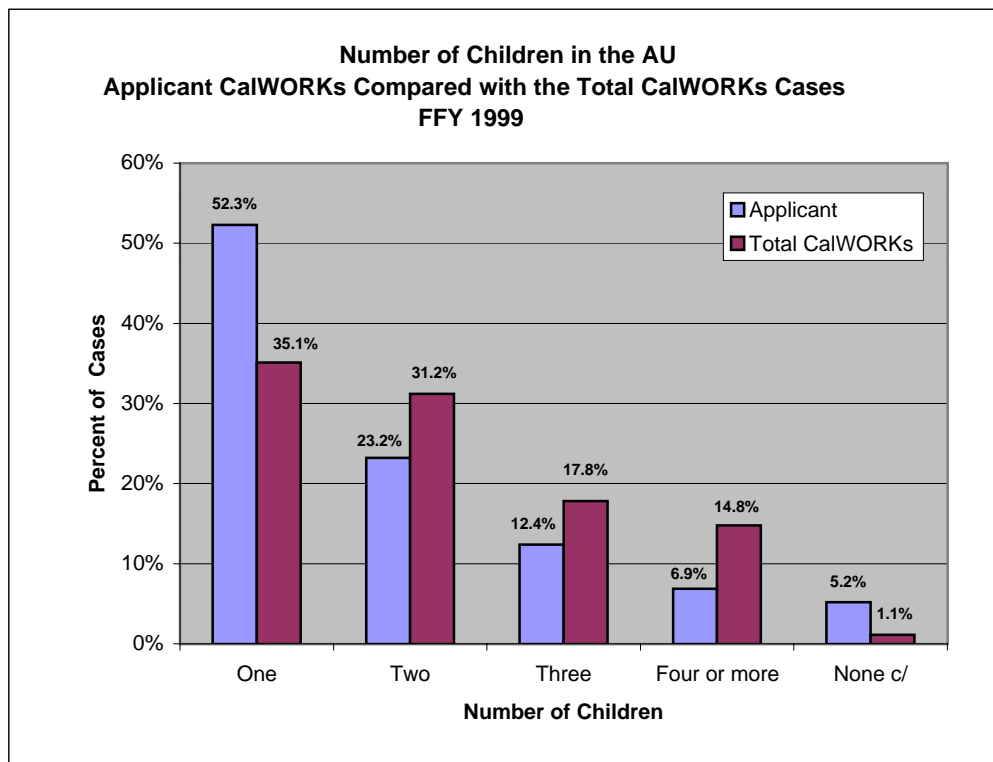


## **Case Characteristics**

Table 1<sup>a/</sup>

**Number of Children in the AU  
Applicant<sup>b/</sup> CalWORKs Compared with the Total CalWORKs Caseload FFY 1999**

Number of Children	Applicant Cases	Total CalWORKs Cases	Difference
One	52.3%	35.1%	17.2
Two	23.2%	31.2%	-8.0
Three	12.4%	17.8%	-5.4
Four or more	6.9%	14.8%	-7.9
None <sup>c/</sup>	5.2%	1.1%	4.1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	
<b>Average No. Children</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>-0.4</b>



a/ This table compares with Table 2 of the CalWORKs Characteristics Survey, FFY 1999.

b/ The applicant population (AP) comprises only 2% of the total CalWORKs population (TCP).

Since the AP contributes minimally to the TCP, data in the AP is compared with TCP data.

c/ An AU could have no children if the child was receiving SSI or the child is an unborn.

**Table 1**

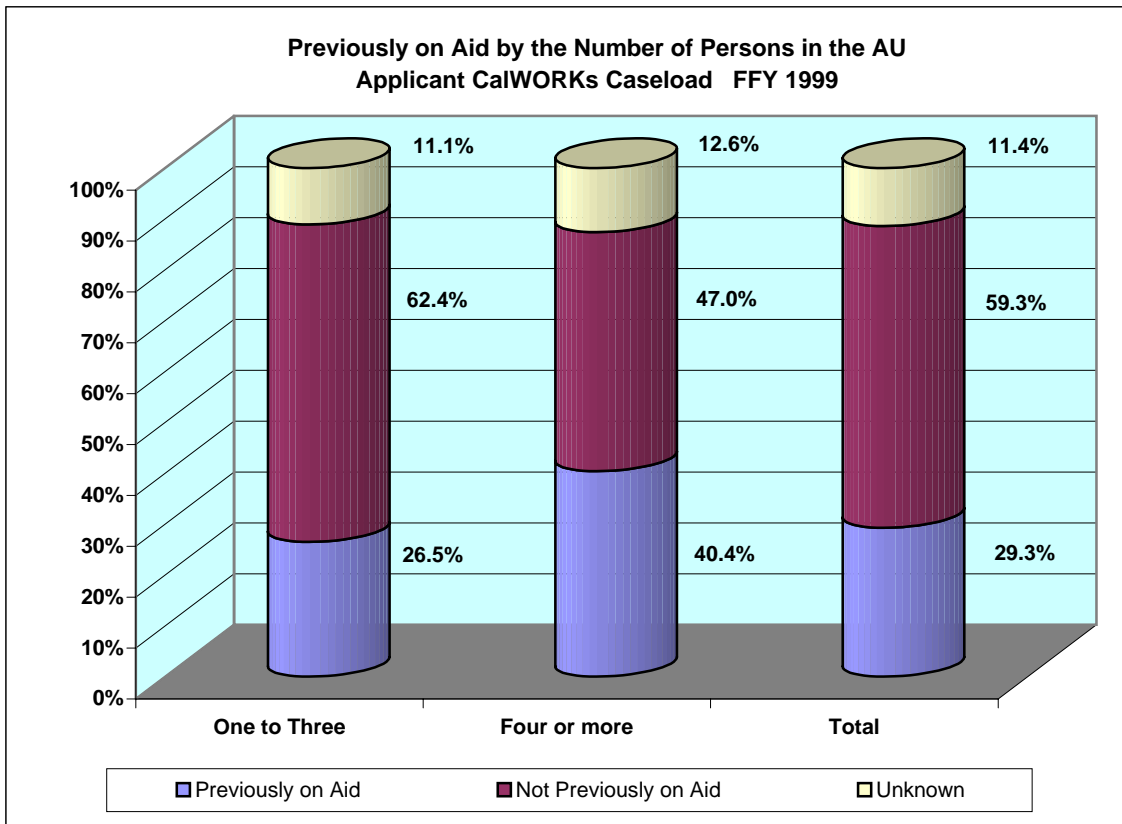
**Number of Children in the AU  
Applicant CalWORKs  
Compared with the Total CalWORKs Caseload FFY 1999**

- ☆ Applicant cases have fewer children (average 1.8 per case) when compared with the Total CalWORKs cases (average 2.2 per case).

Table 2

Previously on Aid by the Number of Persons in the AU  
Applicant CalWORKs Caseload FFY 1999

Persons In AU	Previously On Aid <sup>a/</sup>	Not Previously On Aid	Unknown
One to Three	26.5%	62.4%	11.1%
Four or more	40.4%	47.0%	12.6%
Total	29.3%	59.3%	11.4%



a/ An applicant case is defined as a case that was not on aid for a minimum of 90 days prior to the date of application. The "Previously on Aid" designation means that the case was on aid at some time prior to the past 90 day period. This determination was made using the Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System (MEDS) with data back to 1987.

## **Table 2**

### **Previously on Aid by the Number of Persons in the AU Applicant CalWORKs Caseload FFY 1999**

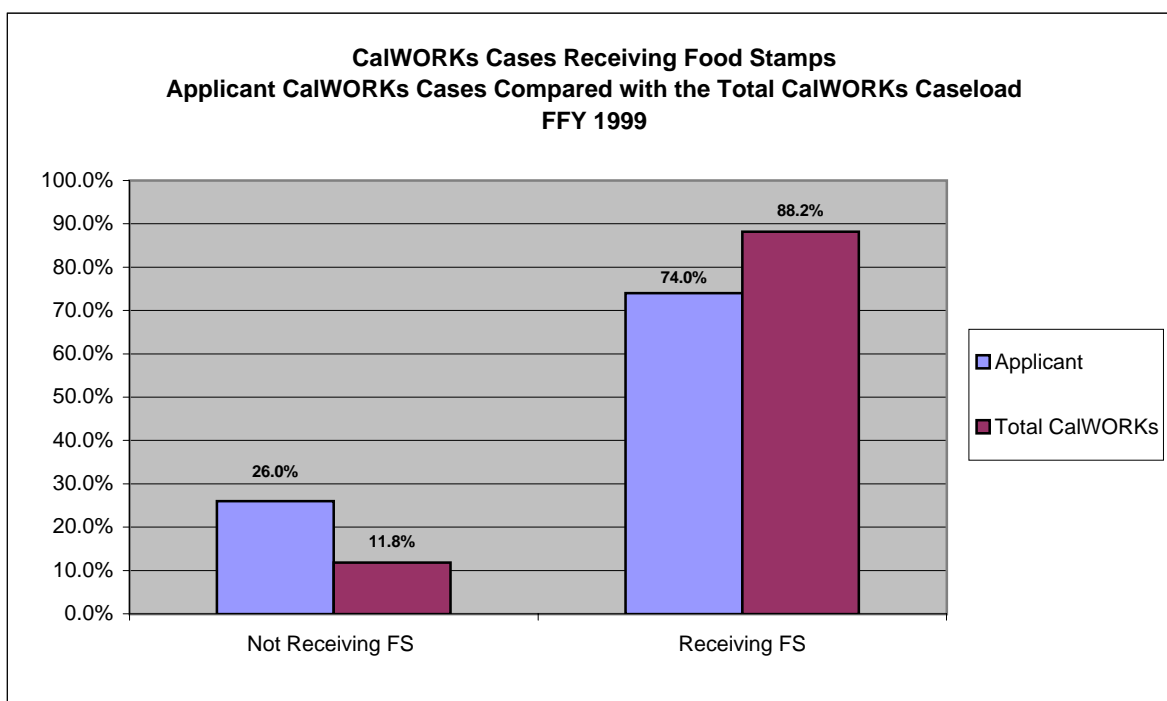
- ☆ The majority of applicant cases (59.3%) have not previously been on aid.
- ☆ The greater the family size, the more likely the family would previously have been on aid.

Table 3<sup>a/</sup>

**CalWORKs Cases Receiving Food Stamps**  
**Applicant<sup>b/</sup> CalWORKs Cases Compared with the Total CalWORKs Caseload FFY 1999**

Receipt of Food Stamps	Applicant	Total CalWORKs	Difference
Not Receiving FS	26.0%	11.8%	14.2%
Receiving FS	74.0%	88.2%	-14.2%

	Applicant	Total CalWORKs	Difference
Average FS Allotment	\$185	\$207	-\$22



a/ This table compares with Table 31 of the CalWORKs Characteristics Survey, FFY 1999.

b/ The applicant population (AP) comprises only 2% of the total CalWORKs population (TCP).  
 Since the AP contributes minimally to the TCP, data in the AP is compared with TCP data.

**Table 3**

**CalWORKs Cases Receiving Food Stamps  
Applicant CalWORKs Cases  
Compared with the Total CalWORKs Caseload FFY 1999**

- ☆ The proportion of the applicant cases not receiving Food Stamp benefits (26%) in their initial month of CalWORKs eligibility is more than twice that of the total CalWORKs cases (11.8%). The higher than expected proportion of applicant cases not receiving Food Stamps in their initial month of CalWORKs eligibility is most likely due to the additional verification requirements of the Food Stamp Program, e.g., shelter, utility and who purchases and prepares the food in the home which could, conceivably, delay the approval process.

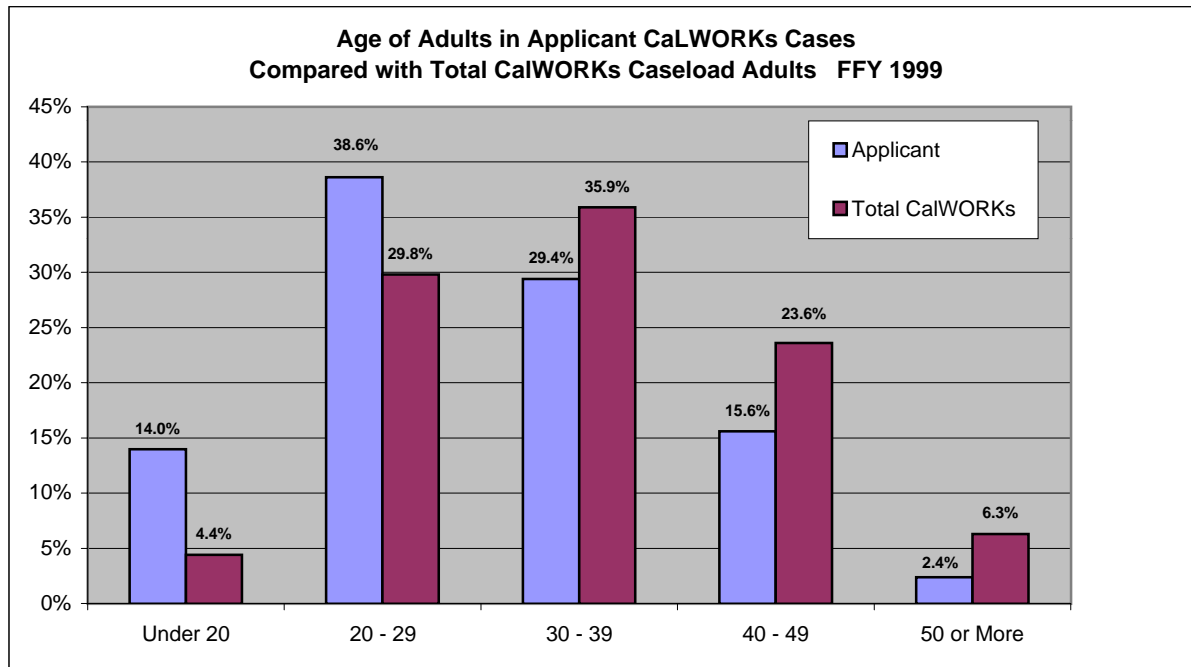
## **Recipient Characteristics**



Table 4A<sup>a/</sup>

**Age of Adults in Applicant CalWORKs<sup>b/</sup> Cases  
Compared with Total CalWORKs Caseload Adults FFY 1999**

Age Adults	Applicant Adults	Total CalWORKs Adults	Difference
Under 20	14.0%	4.4%	9.6
20 - 29	38.6%	29.8%	8.8
30 - 39	29.4%	35.9%	-6.5
40 - 49	15.6%	23.6%	-8.0
50 or More	2.4%	6.3%	-3.9
<b>Total</b>	100.0%	100.0%	
	<b>Average Age of Applicant Adults</b>	<b>Average Age of CalWORKs Adults</b>	
	30.4	34.2	



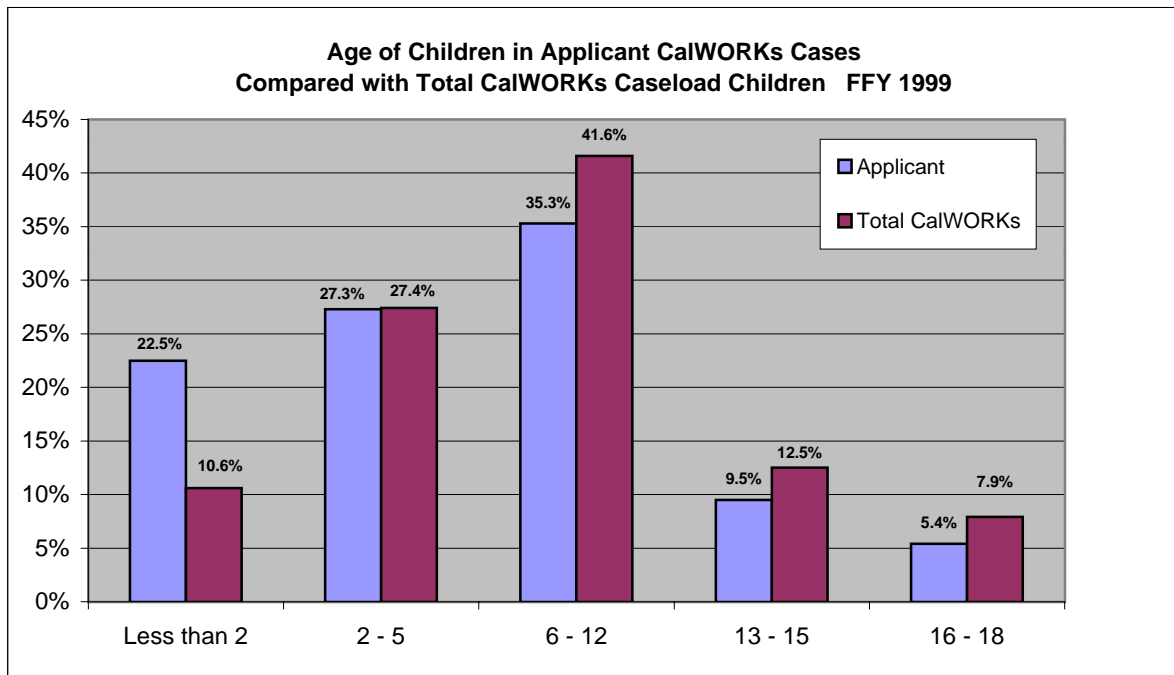
a/ This table compares with Table 9 of the CalWORKs Characteristics Survey, FFY 1999.

b/ The applicant population (AP) comprises only 2% of the total CalWORKs population (TCP). Since the AP contributes minimally to the TCP, data in the AP is compared with TCP data.

Table 4B<sup>a/</sup>

**Age of Children in Applicant CalWORKs<sup>b/</sup> Cases  
Compared with Total CalWORKs Caseload Children FFY 1999**

Age Children	Applicant Children	Total CalWORKs Children	Difference
Less than 2	22.5%	10.6%	11.9
2 - 5	27.3%	27.4%	-0.1
6 - 12	35.3%	41.6%	-6.3
13 - 15	9.5%	12.5%	-3.0
16 - 18	5.4%	7.9%	-2.5
<b>Total</b>	100.0%	100.0%	
	<b>Average Age of Applicant Children</b>	<b>Average Age of CalWORKs Children</b>	
	6.8	7.7	



a/ This table compares with Table 9 of the CalWORKs Characteristics Survey, FFY 1999.

b/ The applicant population (AP) comprises only 2% of the total CalWORKs population (TCP). Since the AP contributes minimally to the TCP, data in the AP is compared with TCP data.

## **Tables 4A and 4B**

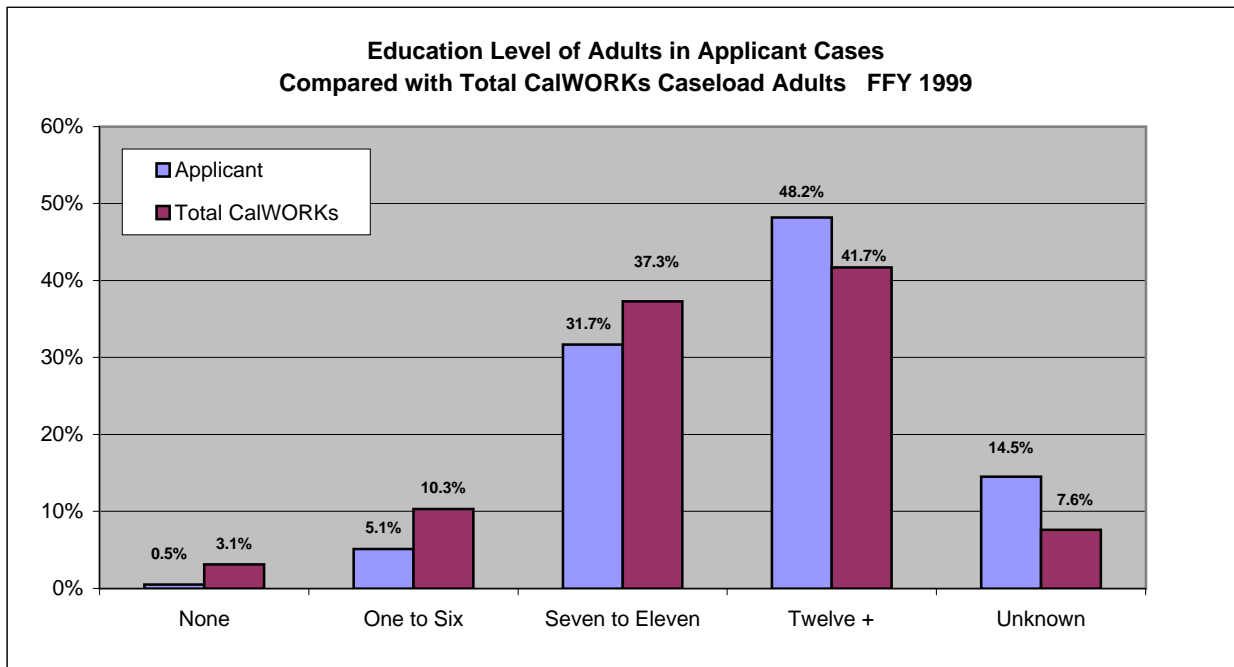
### **Age of Adults and Children in Applicant CalWORKs Cases Compared with the Total CalWORKs Caseload FFY 1999**

- ☆ The average age for adults and children in applicant cases (30.4 and 6.8, respectively) is lower than in the total CalWORKs cases (34.2 for adults and 7.7 for children).
- ☆ The applicant cases have a higher proportion of younger adults, (52.6%) under age 30, compared with 34.2% in the total CalWORKs cases.
- ☆ The proportion of children less than two years old in the applicant cases (22.5%) is twice that of the total CalWORKs cases (10.6%).

Table 5<sup>a/</sup>

**Education Level of Adults in Applicant CalWORKs<sup>b/</sup> Cases  
Compared with Total CalWORKs Caseload Adults FFY 1999**

Education Level <sup>c/</sup>	Applicant Adults	Total CalWORKs Adults	Difference
None	0.5%	3.1%	-2.6
One to Six	5.1%	10.3%	-5.2
Seven to Eleven	31.7%	37.3%	-5.6
Twelve +	48.2%	41.7%	6.5
Unknown	14.5%	7.6%	6.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	



a/ This table compares with Table 23 of the CalWORKs Characteristics Survey, FFY 1999.

b/ The applicant population (AP) comprises only 2% of the total CalWORKs population (TCP).

Since the AP contributes minimally to the TCP, data in the AP is compared with TCP data.

c/ These data reflect the highest grade completed by individual recipients. If still attending school, the highest grade completed is defined as the grade completed in the prior term.

**Table 5**

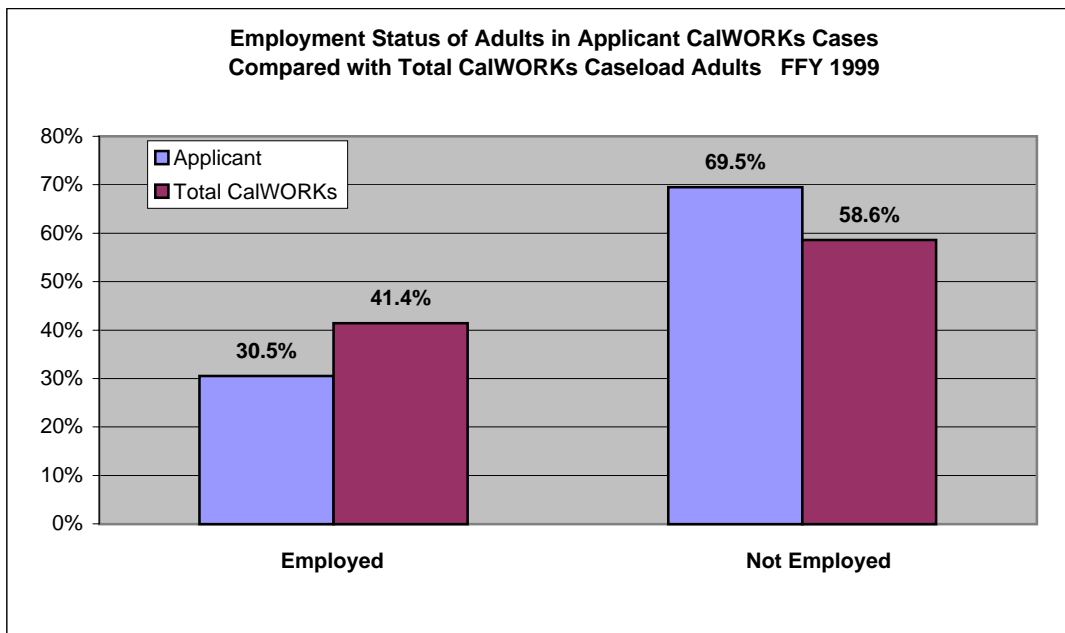
**Education Level of Adults in Applicant CalWORKs Cases  
Compared with Total CalWORKs Caseload Adults  
FFY 1999**

- ☆ A higher proportion of applicant adults have at least a high school education compared with the total CalWORKs adults (48.2% versus 41.7%).

**TABLE 6<sup>a/</sup>**

**Employment Status of Adults in Applicant CalWORKs<sup>b/</sup> Cases  
Compared with Total CalWORKs Caseload Adults FFY 1999**

Employment Status	Applicant	Total CalWORKs	Difference
Employed <sup>c/ d/</sup>	30.5%	41.4%	-10.9
Not Employed	69.5%	58.6%	10.9
Total	100.0%	100.0%	



a/ This table compares with Table 41 of the CalWORKs Characteristics Survey, FFY 1999.

b/ The applicant population (AP) comprises only 2% of the total CalWORKs population (TCP).

Since the AP contributes minimally to the TCP, data in the AP is compared with TCP data.

c/ Although the percent of applicant cases with employment appears to be high, in order to qualify for CalWORKs, the total monthly income for the assistance unit would have to be less than the minimum basic standard of adequate care (MBSAC). For example, the MBSAC for a family of three would be \$793.

d/ The percent of applicant adults employed is lower than the percent of applicant adults with income in Table 7 because the income in that table includes earned and unearned income.

[Note: Employment information is supplemented with data from the base wage file obtained from the California State Employment Development Department.]

**Table 6**

**Employment Status of Adults in Applicant CalWORKs Cases  
Compared with Total CalWORKs Caseload Adults  
FFY 1999**

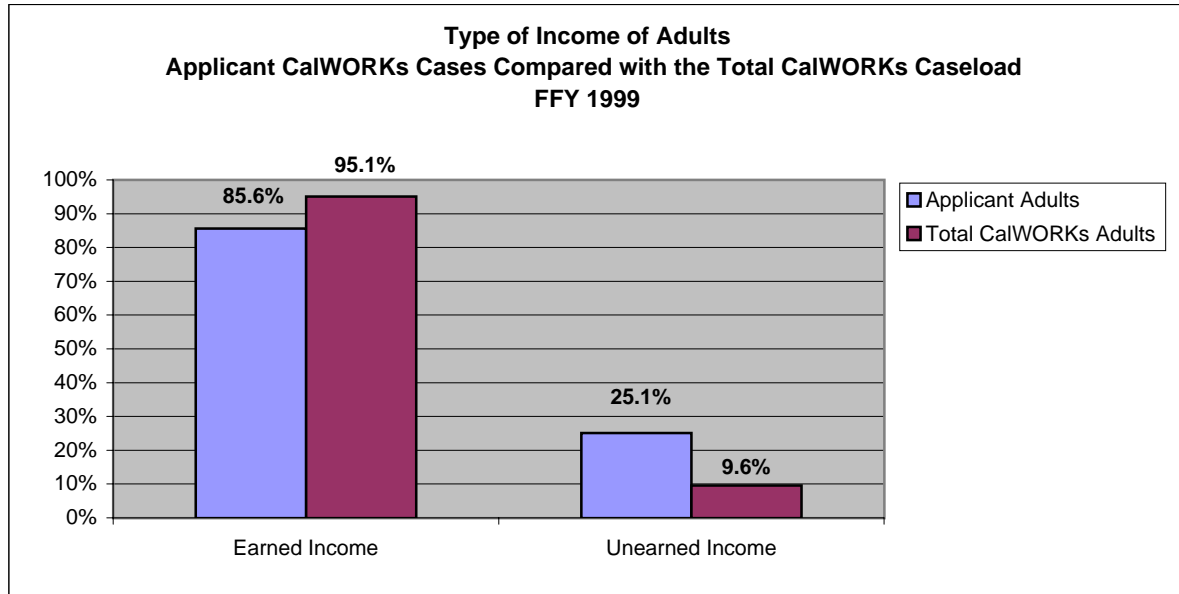
- ☆ Applicant adult recipients are more than twice as likely to be unemployed than employed (69.5% not employed versus 30.5% employed).
- ☆ Although the proportion of applicant adults who are employed is higher than might be expected, the average gross monthly earned income is \$556 per case versus \$735 for the total CalWORKs caseload. The lower average income for applicants results from the different income standards applied to applicants.

TABLE 7<sup>a/</sup>

**Type of Income of Adults**  
**Applicant CalWORKs<sup>b/</sup> Cases Compared with the Total CalWORKs Caseload FFY 1999**

	Adult Applicants	Adults Total CalWORKs	Difference
All Adults With Income <sup>c/</sup>	37.1%	41.2%	-4.1
All Adults With No Income	62.9%	58.8%	4.1
Total	100.0%	100.0%	

Adults With Income Only: Type of Income	Adult Applicants <sup>d/</sup>	Adults Total CalWORKs <sup>d/</sup>	Difference
Earned Income	85.6%	95.1%	-9.5
Unearned Income	25.1%	9.6%	15.5



a/ This table compares with Table 43 of the CalWORKs Characteristics Survey, FFY 1999.

b/ The applicant population (AP) comprises only 2% of the total CalWORKs population (TCP).

Since the AP contributes minimally to the TCP, data in the AP is compared with TCP data.

c/ The percent of applicant adults with income is higher than the percent of adults employed in Table 6 because the income figure includes both earned and unearned income (e.g., unemployment insurance benefits, worker's compensation, retirement benefits, etc.).

d/ Because a person could have earned and unearned income, the sum of the two exceeds 100%.

[Note: Income information is supplemented with data from the California State Employment Development Department.]



**TABLE 7**

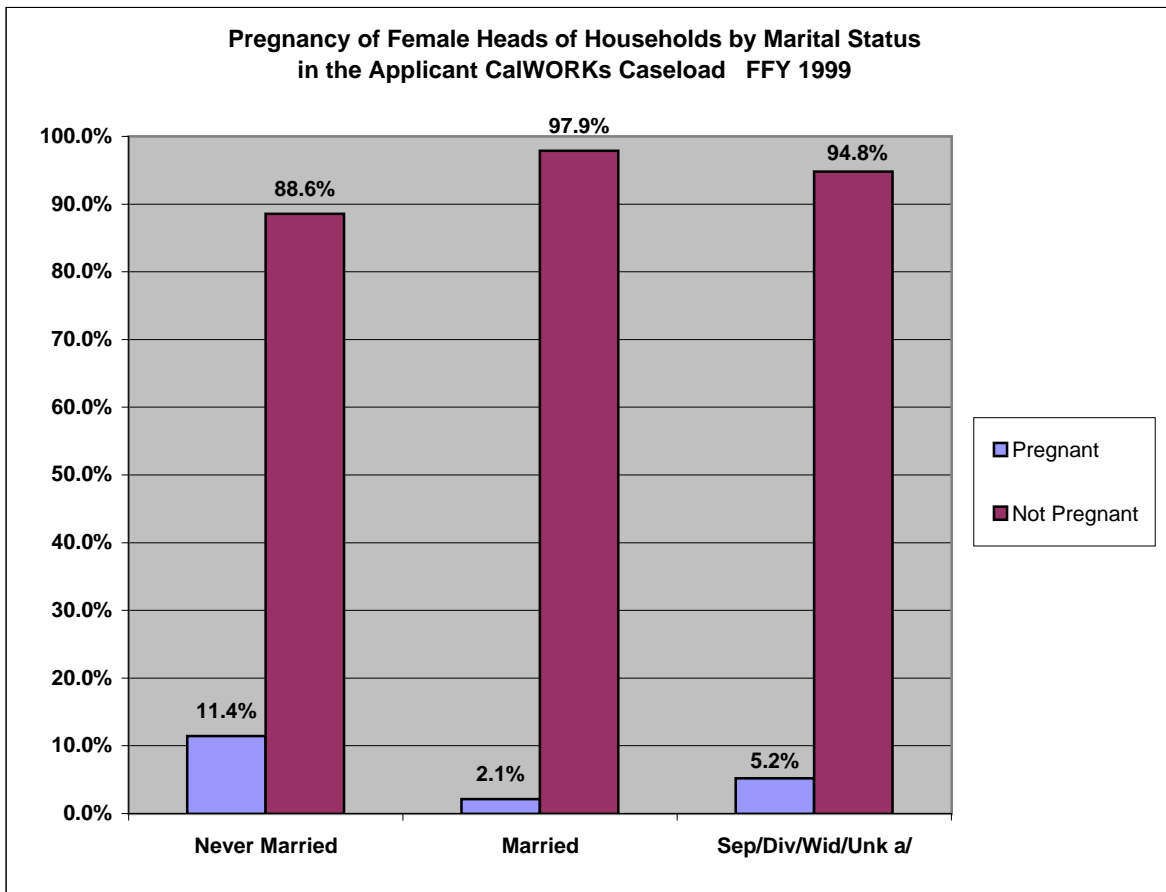
**Type of Income of Adults  
Applicant CalWORKs Cases Compared with  
The Total CalWORKs Caseload FFY 1999**

- ☆ Of adults with income, the proportion of applicant adults with unearned income is 15.5 percentage points greater than adults in the total CalWORKs caseload (25.1% versus 9.6%).

Table 8

**Pregnancy of Female Heads of Households by Marital Status  
in the Applicant CalWORKs Caseload FFY 1999**

Marital Status	Marital Status	Pregnant	Not Pregnant
Never Married	59.8%	11.4%	88.6%
Married	11.6%	2.1%	97.9%
Sep/Div/Wid/Unk <sup>a/</sup>	28.6%	5.2%	94.8%
Total	100.0%	Average Age	Average Age
		22.7	29.4



a/ This category includes "separated", "divorced", "widowed" and "unknown". These categories were combined because of the small percentage of pregnancies in each category.

**Table 8**

**Pregnancy of Female Heads of Households by Marital Status  
in the CalWORKs Applicant Caseload FFY 1999**

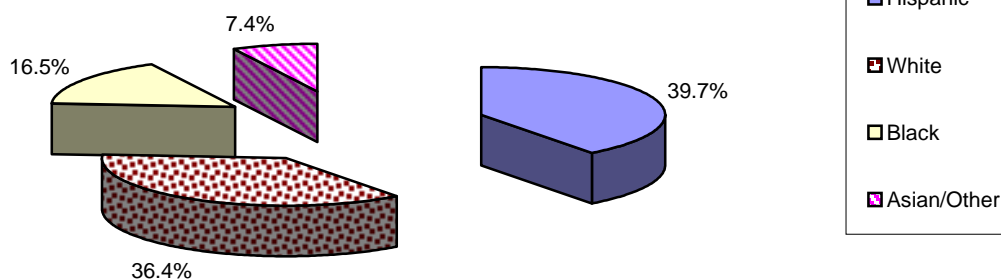
- ☆ A majority of the applicant female heads of households were never married (59.8%). This category also has the highest proportion of pregnant females (11.4%).
- ☆ The pregnant applicant female heads of households are, on the average, younger than those who are not pregnant (22.7 versus 29.4 years of age).

Table 9A<sup>a/</sup>

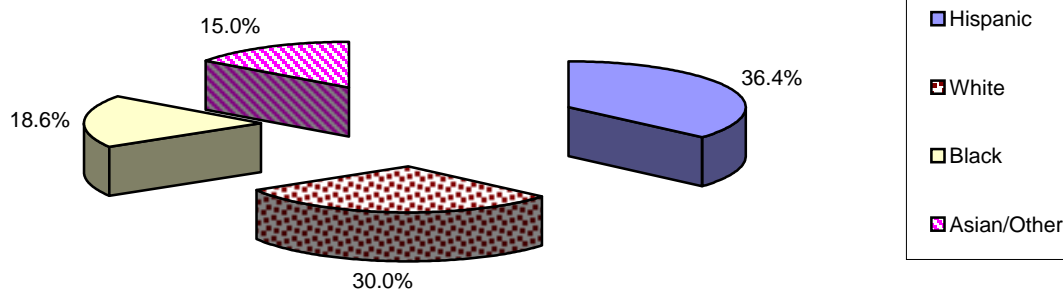
**Race of Adults in Applicant CalWORKs<sup>b/</sup> Cases  
Compared with the Total CalWORKs Caseload FFY 1999**

Race Adults	Applicant Adults	Total CalWORKs Adults	Difference
Hispanic	39.7%	36.4%	3.3
White	36.4%	30.0%	6.4
Black	16.5%	18.6%	-2.1
Asian/Other	7.4%	15.0%	-7.6
Total	100.0%	100.0%	

**Race of Applicant Adults FFY 1999**



**Race of Total CalWORKs Adults FFY 1999**



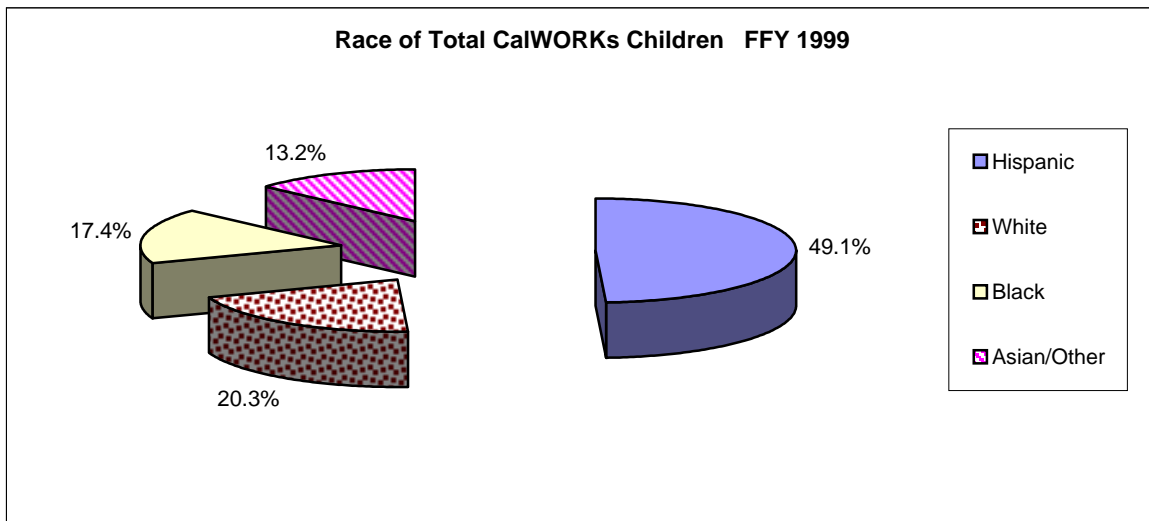
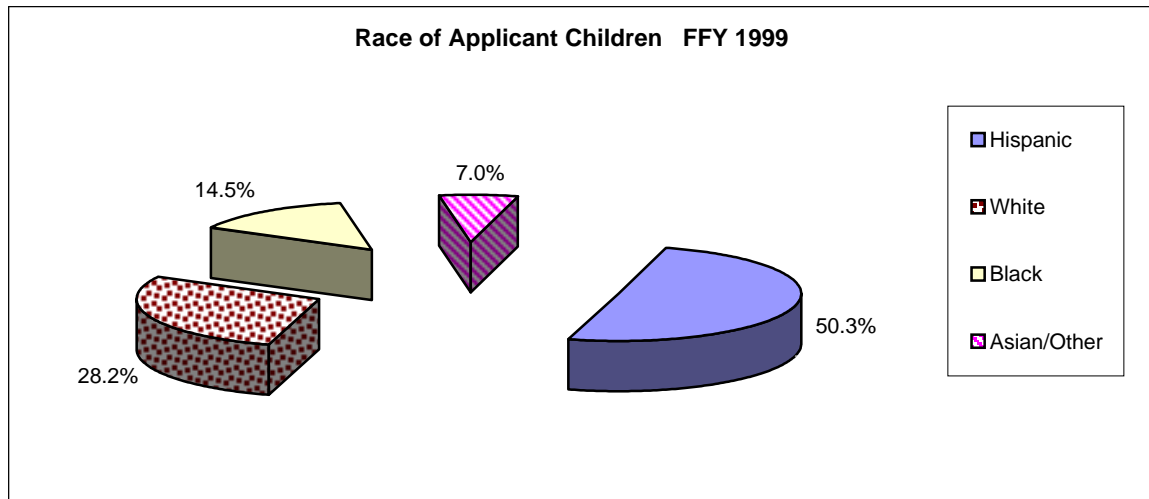
a/ This table compares with Table 15 of the CalWORKs Characteristics Survey, FFY 1999.

b/ The applicant population (AP) comprises only 2% of the total CalWORKs population (TCP).  
Since the AP contributes minimally to the TCP, data in the AP is compared with TCP data.

Table 9B<sup>a/</sup>

**Race of Children in Applicant CalWORKs<sup>b/</sup> Cases  
Compared with the Total CalWORKs Caseload FFY 1999**

Race Children	Applicant Children	Total CalWORKs Children	Difference
Hispanic	50.3%	49.1%	1.2%
White	28.2%	20.3%	7.9%
Black	14.5%	17.4%	-2.9%
Asian/Other	7.0%	13.2%	-6.2%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	



a/ This table compares with Table 15 of the CalWORKs Characteristics Survey, FFY 1999.

b/ The applicant population (AP) comprises only 2% of the total CalWORKs population (TCP). Since the AP contributes minimally to the TCP, data in the AP is compared with TCP data.

## **Tables 9A and 9B**

### **Race of Adults and Children in Applicant CalWORKs Cases Compared with the Total CalWORKs Caseload FFY 1999**

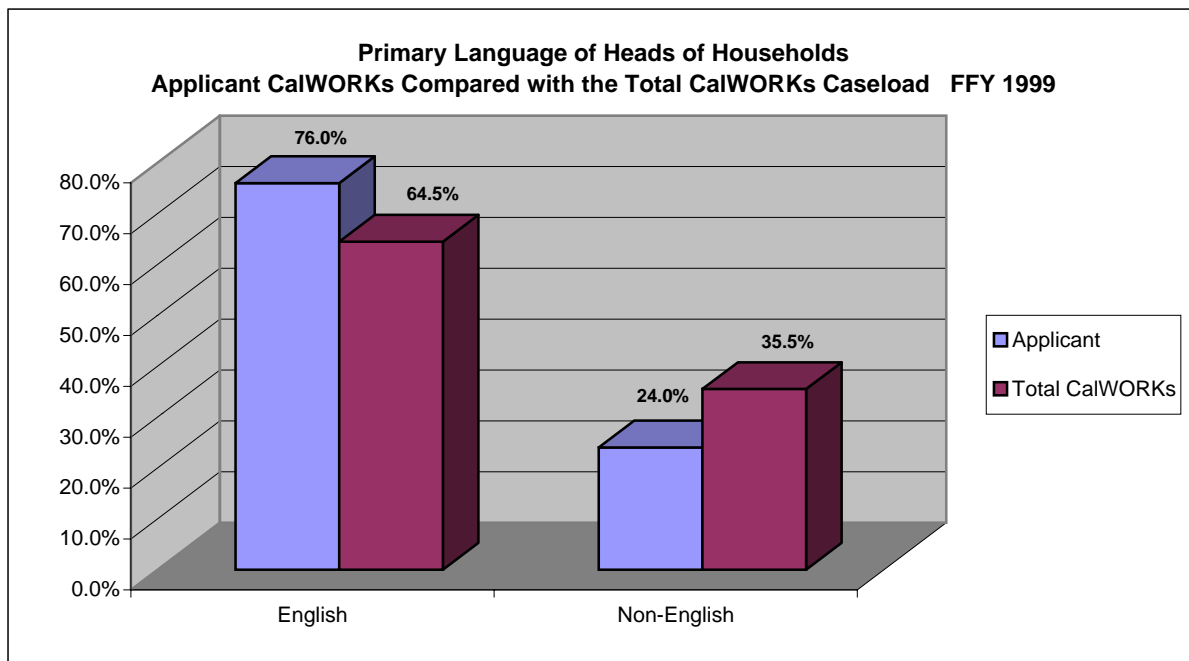
- ☆ More applicant adults and children tend to be white (36.4% and 28.2%, respectively) than in the total CalWORKs caseload (30% and 20.3%, respectively).
- ☆ Fewer applicant adults and children fall into the Asian/Other category (7.4% and 7%, respectively) compared with the total CalWORKs caseload (15% and 13.2%, respectively).

Table 10<sup>a/</sup>

**Primary Language of Heads of Households  
Applicant CalWORKs Cases Compared with the Total CalWORKs Caseload<sup>b/</sup>  
FFY 1999**

Primary Language	Applicants	Total CalWORKs Caseload	Difference
English	76.0%	64.5%	11.5
Non-English	24.0%	35.5%	-11.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	

Break-out of Non-English			Difference
Spanish	86.0%	73.4%	12.6
Vietnamese	6.0%	8.8%	-2.8
Other <sup>c/</sup>	8.0%	17.8%	-9.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	



a/ This table compares with Table 17 of the CalWORKs Characteristics Survey, FFY 1999.

b/ The applicant population (AP) comprises only 2% of the total CalWORKs population (TCP).

Since the AP contributes minimally to the TCP, data in the AP is compared with TCP data.

c/ The "Other" category includes Hmong, Cambodian, Armenian, Laotian, Russian, Chinese, Farsi, Arabic, Mien, Tagalog and other. These language categories were combined into an "Other" category because in the applicant caseload, they each comprised less than 1% of the total heads of households with a primary language other than English.

**Table 10**

**Primary Language of Heads of Households  
in Applicant CalWORKs Cases  
Compared with the Total CalWORKs Caseload  
FFY 1999**

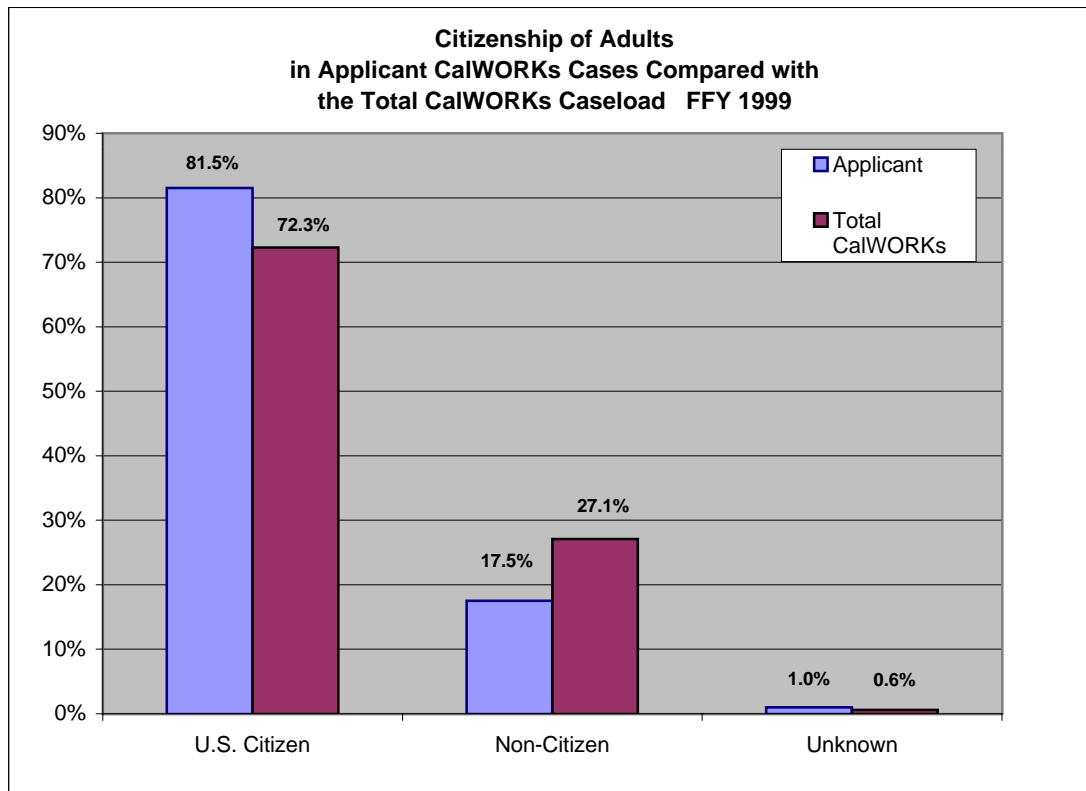
- ☆ Applicant heads of households are more likely to have English as their primary language than those in the total CalWORKs caseload (76% versus 64.5%).
- ☆ Applicant heads of households who do not have English as their primary language are more likely to speak Spanish than those in the total CalWORKs caseload (86% versus 73.4%).



TABLE 11A<sup>a/</sup>

**Citizenship of Adults in Applicant CalWORKs<sup>b/</sup> Cases  
Compared with the Total CalWORKs Caseload Adults FFY 1999**

Citizenship Adults	Applicant Adults	Total CalWORKs Adults	Difference
U.S. Citizen	81.5%	72.3%	9.2%
Non-Citizen	17.5%	27.1%	-9.6%
Unknown	1.0%	0.6%	0.4%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	



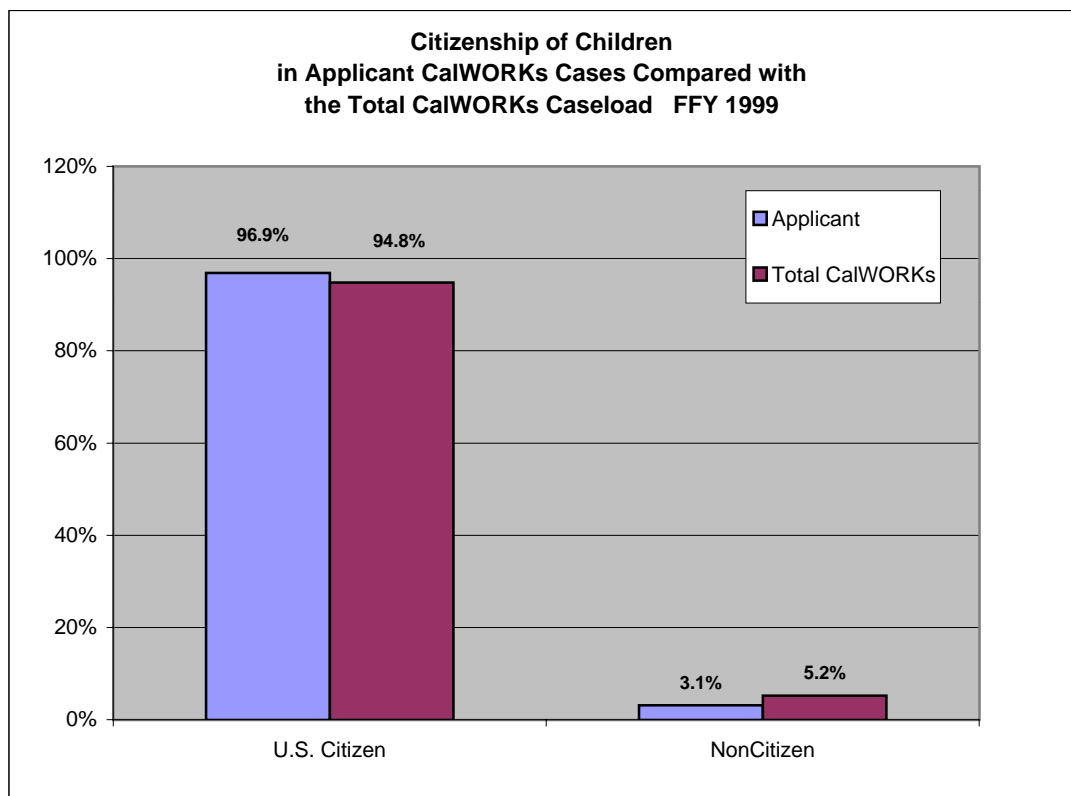
a/ This table compares with Table 25 of the CalWORKs Characteristics Survey, FFY 1999.

b/ The applicant population (AP) comprises only 2% of the total CalWORKs population (TCP).  
Since the AP contributes minimally to the TCP, data in the AP is compared with TCP data.

**TABLE 11B<sup>a/</sup>**

**Citizenship of Children in Applicant CalWORKs<sup>b/</sup> Cases  
Compared with the Total CalWORKs Caseload Children FFY 1999**

Citizenship Children	Applicant Children	Total CalWORKs Children	Difference
U.S. Citizen	96.9%	94.8%	2.1%
NonCitizen	3.1%	5.2%	-2.1%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	



a/ This table compares with Table 26 of the CalWORKs Characteristics Survey, FFY 1999.

b/ The applicant population (AP) comprises only 2% of the total CalWORKs population (TCP).  
Since the AP contributes minimally to the TCP, data in the AP is compared with TCP data.

## **TABLES 11A and 11B**

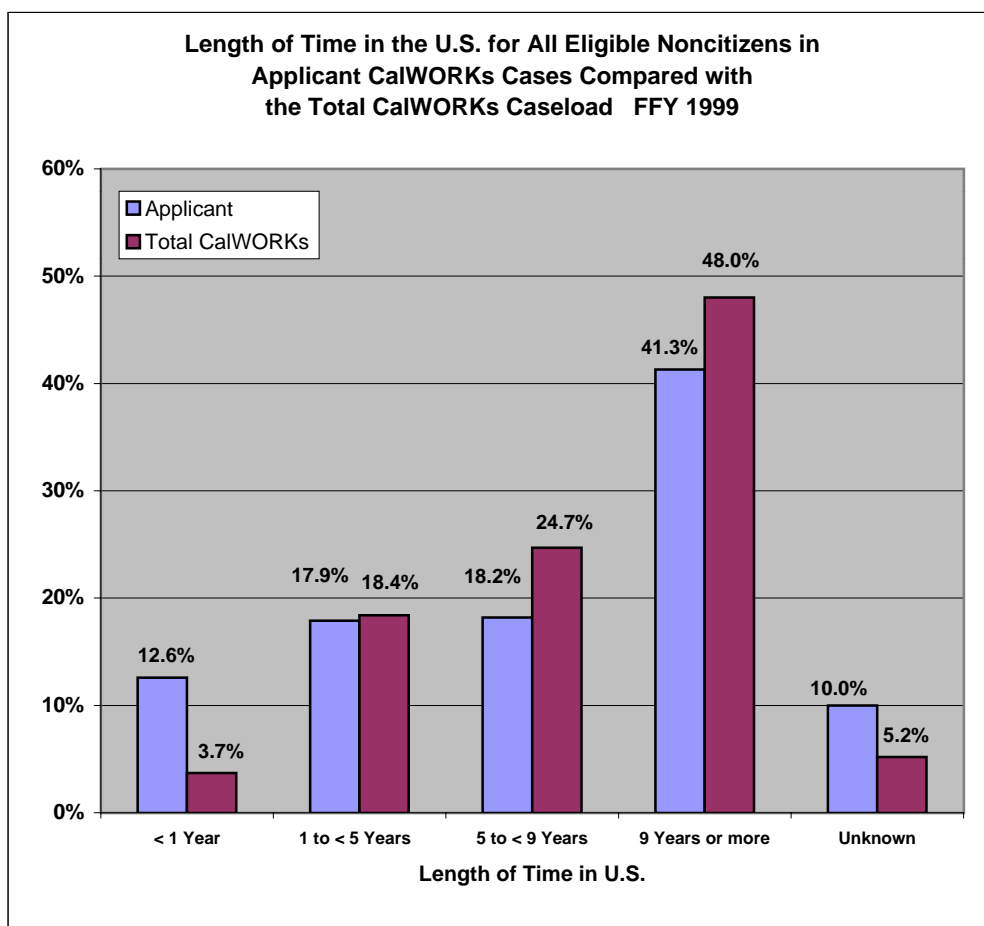
### **Citizenship of Adults and Children in Applicant CalWORKs Cases Compared with the Total CalWORKs Caseload FFY 1999**

- ☆ While almost all of the children in the applicant and total CalWORKs cases are U.S. citizens (96.9% and 94.8%, respectively), more applicant adults are U.S. citizens (81.5%) than adults in the total CalWORKs caseload (72.3%).

Table 12<sup>a/</sup>

**Length of Time in the U.S. for All Eligible Noncitizens in the Applicant<sup>b/</sup> CalWORKs Cases Compared with the total CalWORKs Caseload FFY 1999**

Length of Time in U.S.	Applicant Persons	Total CalWORKs Persons	Difference
< 1 Year	12.6%	3.7%	8.9
1 to < 5 Years	17.9%	18.4%	-0.5
5 to < 9 Years	18.2%	24.7%	-6.5
9 Years or more	41.3%	48.0%	-6.7
Unknown	10.0%	5.2%	4.8
Total	100.0%	100.0%	



a/ This table compares with Table 27 of the CalWORKs Characteristics Survey, FFY 1999.

b/ The applicant population (AP) comprises only 2% of the total CalWORKs population (TCP). Since the AP contributes minimally to the TCP, data in the AP is compared with TCP data.

**Table 12**

**Length of Time in the U.S. for All Eligible Noncitizens  
in the Applicant CalWORKs Cases  
Compared with the Total CalWORKs Caseload FFY 1999**

- ☆ Eligible noncitizens in the applicant cases have less time in the U.S. compared with the total CalWORKs caseload, possibly because the applicant population tends to be younger.
- ☆ It should be noted that according to California law, a sponsor is fiscally responsible for an alien during the first three years of residency in the country. After that time, a sponsored alien may apply for CalWORKs benefits.
- ☆ TANF law requires a five-year waiting period for aliens who entered this country after August 22, 1996 (the effective date of the law creating the TANF program). It is only after this period that they are eligible for TANF-funded benefits. In California, we aid these aliens with state funds during the waiting period.

**CHARACTERISTICS SURVEY**  
 APPLICANT ADDENDUM TO THE  
 CALIFORNIA WORK OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO KIDS (CalWORKs) PROGRAM CHARACTERISTICS SURVEY  
 FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 1999

## *Appendix A*

### Reliability Estimates for Selected Case Applicant Sample Sizes

Selected Sample Size	Characteristic Percent				
	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%
	<b>Estimated reliability at 95% confidence (+ or -):</b>				
985	1.87%	2.49%	2.85%	3.05%	3.11%
900	1.95%	2.61%	2.98%	3.19%	3.26%
800	2.07%	2.76%	3.17%	3.39%	3.46%
700	2.22%	2.96%	3.39%	3.62%	3.70%
600	2.40%	3.19%	3.66%	3.91%	3.99%
500	2.63%	3.50%	4.01%	4.29%	4.38%
400	2.94%	3.91%	4.48%	4.79%	4.89%
300	3.39%	4.52%	5.18%	5.54%	5.65%
200	4.16%	5.54%	6.35%	6.79%	6.93%

**Example:** Table 6 shows that a little more than 30% (30.5%) of the applicant adults were employed. The chart above, at a characteristic percent of 30%, shows a reliability of + or - 3.17% for a sample size of 800 and 3.39% for a sample size of 700. Since the sample size for adults is 747, approximately halfway between 700 and 800, we will use a reliability halfway between 3.17% and 3.39%, i.e., 3.28%. Therefore, we are 95% confident that the true value is between 33.8% and 27.2% (30.5% plus or minus 3.28%). That is, there is a 1 in 20 chance (5%) that the true value falls outside this range.

#### **Key for "Selected Sample Size" to Reference Data from Publication Tables to This Table**

Type of Sample	Selected Sample Size
All persons or all cases	985
Adult Heads of Households b/	985
Adults	747
Children	985
Female Heads of Households	649
Eligible Noncitizens	209

a/ Reliability is based on an unrestricted random sample of cases and, as a result, the actual reliability of the data may be better than reflected in the table. Reliability does not apply to persons (recipient) data.

b/ "Adult head of household" is equivalent to the payee for the case. As a result, every applicant case in the sample, i.e., 985, will have an adult head of household.

Note: Please reference Appendix A in the CalWORKs Characteristics Survey for FFY 1999 for the Total CalWORKs percentage reliability values in this addendum.



State of California

Health and Human Services Agency

Department of Social Services